
TUCSON PLANNING COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

Plan to End Homelessness Committee

July 12, 2009 Minutes

Chair: Linda Kot

Next Meeting: August 16, 2010 – 10:00-11:30 a.m., Sentinel Bldg., 320 Commerce Park Loop
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Report to General Council August 8th
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Committee is reviewing FSP and comparing with Tucson/Pima County PTEH priorities■ Committee would like to present on the comparison at a future General Council meeting. |
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TOPICS DISCUSSED

1. **Minutes.** Minutes of the June meeting were accepted by consensus with correction of the implementation coordinator's full-time equivalency to 35%.
2. **Common Ground update.** Gail Gibbons reported that, at the July General Council, it was noted that there is no need yet to accept the committee's offer to be the liaison with the 100,000 Homes Campaign exploratory work group. Participants agreed that this made sense.
3. **Lessons from Portland.** Ann Wheeler recapped the webinar "Revitalize Your Community's Ten-Year Plan To End Homelessness: Lessons From Portland, Oregon"

Key elements included:

- A political champion, Portland City Commissioner Eric Sten, a webinar presenter, who is in charge of the city's homelessness efforts. The city has the ability to appoint members for the Blue Ribbon Committee..
- A Blue Ribbon Committee, composed of civic and business leaders not directly tied to homeless services, and homeless and formerly homeless persons. It does not include government employees or direct service providers.
- A "shadow commission" composed of government and non-profit representatives to provide collaboration and advice to the Citizens' Commission. Any member who does not feel that a concern is being addressed may volunteer to form and chair a committee on that issue.
- Systematic recruitment of faith communities and subsequent organization of their efforts to help homeless people that paid off exponentially as faith communities began to work internally as more cohesive and directed groups
- Funding and subsequent publishing of an in-depth study of the attitudes and experiences of approximately 600 chronically homeless people that guided tactics and event creation. The main finding was that the human connection had been lost between homeless and the community.
- Reallocation of existing funds to rapidly house chronically homeless persons, who require the most expensive care, and free up funds to assist those easier to help back to housing and independence.

Results included

- Creation of 750 additional permanent housing units, with another 200-250 units under construction.
- Creation of community events that brought homeless and non-homeless people together to reengage homeless people through activities such as cooking classes and basketball games.
- Re-housing within the first few years 1,483 homeless families, reducing family homelessness by 70%.
- An overall 39% decrease in Portland-area homelessness.

Anna noted that Sten summarized the Portland plan's strengths as strong, non-profit partners; strong political will; an existing commitment to affordable housing; and very interested citizens. He advised: "Don't underestimate people's good will."

4. **New Federal Strategic Plan to End Homelessness (FSP).** Participants discussed the fact that the FSP has been published, was created by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) and represents the philosophy that will guide the programs and funding of the 19 public agency USICH members. Participants reviewed the FSP’s four main goals, and reached consensus to compare the FSP and local PTEH and request time on the TPCH General Council agenda to present the comparison and current activities to the General Council. It was noted that the committee will also need to pay attention to the forthcoming regulations for HEARTH Act implementation.
 - o **Next steps. a.)** Leslie will again distribute the comparison of the Tucson/Pima County PTEH with the “10 essentials” for ending homelessness.
 - b.) Committee members will review the FSP and Tucson/Pima County PTEH to contrast/compare regarding impact on future plan implementation.

5. **Implementation Coordinator scope of work.** The scope of work for the Implementation Coordinator’s 2010-11 contract was distributed by email prior to the meeting. Consensus was to accept the scope of work as presented. Leslie Carlson asked whether she could communicate with media representatives regarding the PTEH and topics related to ending homelessness. Consensus was that the scope’s statement that she is to “coordinate with other community efforts related to Plan to End Homelessness recommendations”, includes that Leslie should speak to people, including members of news media, about the PTEH and homelessness statistics.

6. **2010-2011 committee goals and work plan.** Deferred due to time, and to allow for committee review of the FSP. Leslie asked the committee to consider what processes the committee will use to plan and carryout the Public Awareness Campaign. This topic will be discussed further at the next meeting.

7. **New Business/Meeting day.** Participants agreed to return next month to a regular schedule of holding the committee meeting on the third Monday of each month.

8. **Next meeting:** Monday, August 16th, 10:00-11:30 a.m., Sentinel Building, 320 Commerce Park Loop.
 - o **Next step.** Leslie will reserve a room for the meeting. .

Attendance

Lori Block	ICH	lori.block@ichtucson.org
Leslie Carlson	Implementation Coordinator	lacarlson@cox.net
Gail Gibbons	DES	ggibbons@azdes.gov
Linda Kot	Primavera Foundation	lkot@primavera.org
Mark Pollinger	DES	mark.pollinger@azdes.gov
Anna Wheeler	Primavera Foundation	awheeler@primavera.org